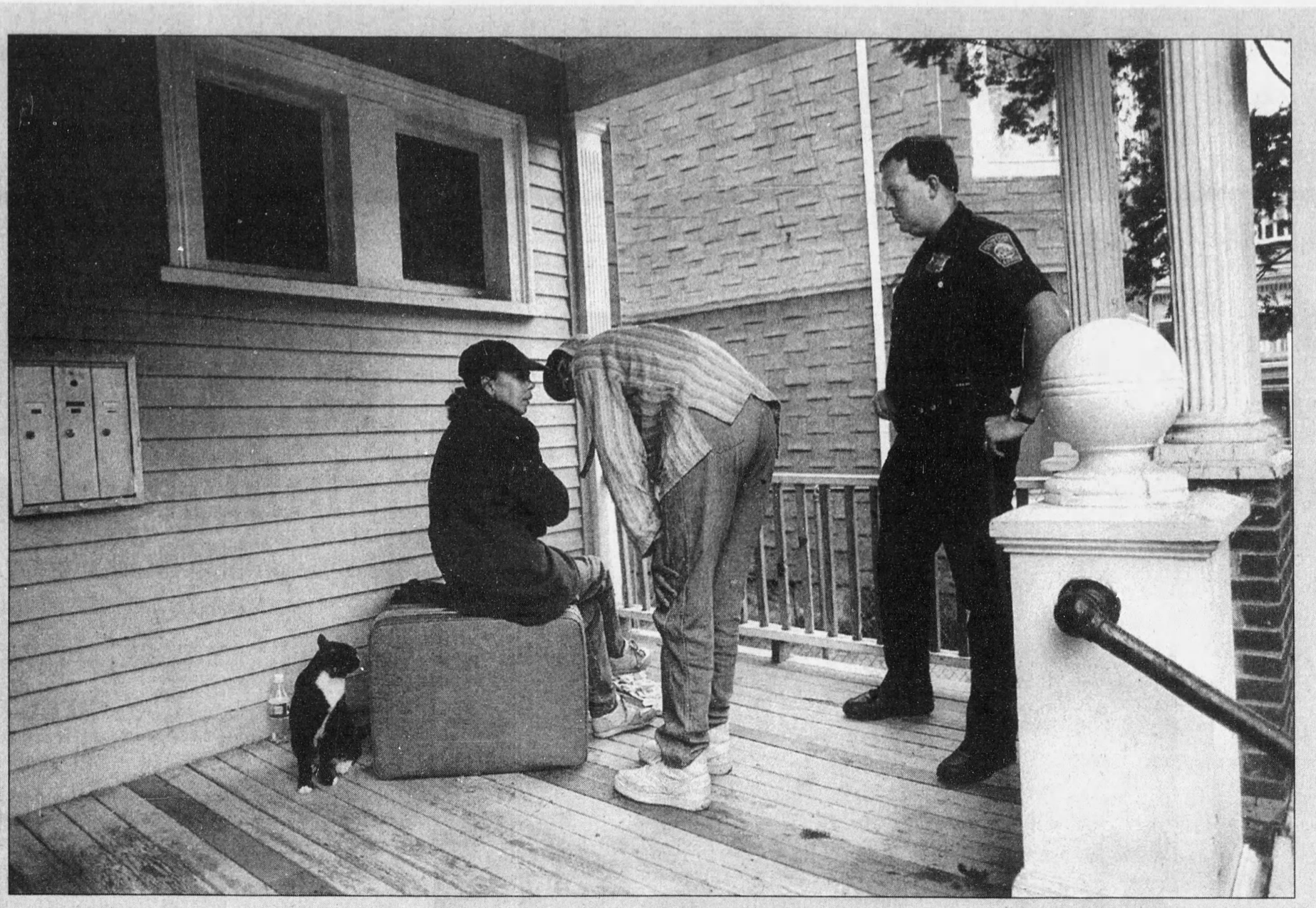


ON THE BEAT

Suzanne Kreiter
GLOBE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OCT. 4, 2:45 P.M., DORCHESTER: An attorney for the owner of a house on Bellevue Street called police to report trespassers. Responding to the call, Boston Police Officer Paul Donlon (right) and his partner, Officer Charlie Blicker, found a couple with their cat and luggage on the porch. The couple told the officers they had been evicted from the house one week earlier and were staying at the Salvation Army Night Center. They said they had returned to wait for the mail, which they expected would contain the woman's child-support check from the state Department of Revenue. After the mail carrier arrived with the check, the officers pointed out an eviction notice attached to the front door and told the couple to meet the mail carrier down the street in the future.

No ID yet on body found in Tolland

TOLLAND – State Police were still trying yesterday to identify the body of a woman found dumped near the entrance to Tolland State Forest.

An autopsy completed yesterday offered investigators few clues, police said.

"We're still very perplexed as to who she is," said Trooper Michael Joslyn.

Police would not release the cause of death but said they were treating the case as a homicide.

The body was found Friday afternoon at a trailer dumping station near the main entrance to the forest. Police believe the body had been left at the park four days earlier.

The state forest is located about 10 miles from the Connecticut line. Officials did not say how the woman was killed and did not say whether the death was connected to the slayings of 19 women in Connecticut during the past 10 years.

Police described the woman as white, between 35 and 50 years of age, between 5 feet 2 inches and 5 feet 4 inches in height, and of medium build.

She was wearing maroon eyeglasses, a gray sweatshirt with a red hood and a diamond-shaped logo with the word "Trends" printed in it, blue jeans, navy blue and gold shoes and a long-sleeved burgundy jersey.

Police are asking anyone with information about the woman to call the Russell State Police barracks at (413) 862-4511.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

E. Boston man fatally shot at Dorchester after-hours party

By Tatiana M. With
and Brian MacQuarrie
GLOBE STAFF

Jorge Luis Medina and Jose Manuel Melendez had a little partying in mind Saturday. So they danced long into the night at a Hispanic nightclub in Roxbury.

They weren't ready to call it quits when the club announced last call. Instead, the two East Boston men drove to an "after-hours" place, a two-floor apartment on Norwell Street in Dorchester, where they could buy alcohol and dance until sun-up.

Before dawn, one of them was dead. Medina, 20, was shot around 3:30 a.m. by a man he had asked to leave the party 10 minutes earlier. Medina, who arrived at the unfurnished apartment before most of the party-goers, had been asked by the hostess to guard the door, Melendez said.

Soon about 70 people were drinking and dancing, but problems ensued when a guest was pinpointed by the hostess as a troublemaker. She asked Medina to eject the man.

"The guy went out, and I thought the problem was done," Melendez said. Minutes later, Medina asked Melendez to back him up.

Melendez said he followed Medina from the second floor to the ground-level porch, where as many as six gunshots were fired at them from behind a parked car. One of the shots shattered the porch glass and struck Medina in the back as he tried to duck for cover.

"People were running everywhere," Melendez said. "Some hid in the closets. Some were screaming, and I threw a bottle at the [gunman] and started to chase after him. But there were people everywhere, and I lost him from my sight."

Melendez then ran back inside to help his friend, who had staggered into the living room and fallen face-up on the floor.

'People were running everywhere. Some hid in the closets. Some were screaming, and I threw a bottle at the [gunman] and started to chase after him.'

JOSE MANUEL MELENDEZ, *friend of victim*

"I thought he was in shock," Melendez said of his sister's boyfriend. "I checked to see if there were any bullet holes, and there wasn't any blood. I thought it was a heart attack or something."

A woman then moved Medina and found a bullet hole, which Melendez said was from a .22-caliber handgun.

Medina was pronounced dead at Boston City Hospital at 4:07 a.m. The assailant, who Melendez said was wearing a red windbreaker, fled in a red sports car with front-end damage, authorities said. Late yesterday, police were reportedly focusing on an unnamed suspect.

Melendez said that neither he nor Medina knew the gunman or the hostess.

Medina, who grew up in Jamaica Plain, often predicted that he would meet a violent death, friends said.

"He always did say that if he was going to die, he was going to die from a bullet," said friend Connie Waters. "If he was going to go, someone would have to shoot him for him to go."

Others described Medina, the youngest of five children, as someone who talked big and had problems with his temper but was well liked. "He was never in a gang but pretended to be in one," Waters said.

Medina's sister, Carmen Torres of Chelsea, said her brother often had "little fights" but would avoid serious altercations.

Waters said Medina seemed to be reining in his temper in anticipation of the birth of his child by Melendez's sister. He had been working most recently for a plasterer, and had prepared applications for additional employment, Melendez said.

"He always tried to have money and jobs," Melendez said. "He was always working and looking."

The victim's mother, Catalina Medina of Chelsea, said her son had been working on weekends and was staying home more to care for his pregnant girlfriend.



JORGE LUIS MEDINA
Asked to eject guest

THE LOTTERY

Sunday number **6580**

SUNDAY PAYOFFS (based on $1 bet)

EXACT ORDER

All 4 digits	**$4,726**
First or last 3	**$662**
Any 2 digits	**$57**
Any 1 digit	**$6**

ANY ORDER

All 4 digits	**$197**
First 3 digits	**$110**
Last 3 digits	**$110**

MEGABUCKS

Oct. 7 **5 10 14 18 23 27**
Jackpot: $1,202,200 ; There were two winners.

BONUS BONANZA

Game 36 , Oct. 5 q **081640**

PREVIOUS MASS. DRAWINGS

Saturday	**5540**
Friday	**1768**
Thursday	**1428**
Wednesday	**7318**
Tuesday	**7477**

SUNDAY NUMBERS AROUND NEW ENGLAND

Rhode Island **5308**
Saturday's Powerball
2 7 15 18 31 Powerball 39
Jackpot: $9.3 million ; There was no jackpot winner.
Connecticut
3-digit **273** 4-digit **2267**
Sat. Maine, N.H., Vermont
3-digit **062** 4-digit **1188**

Antiviolence group launches 3d gun buy-back program

By Susan E. Neff
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

On August 26, 1986, 20-year-old Chris King was shot to death at the Bunker Hill Playground in Charlestown. Five years later his 27-year-old brother, Jay, was slain on Terminal Street behind the Charlestown High School athletic facility.

Nine-year-old Jermaine Goffigan of Roxbury was shot to death on his birthday last Halloween, trick-or-treat candy stuffed in his pockets. And in June, Jackie Bispham, 32, of Mattapan was killed by a gunman who drove past her Norfolk Street home unleashing a fusillade of bullets.

These are the names of just a few of the hundreds of Boston residents who have died from gunshot wounds over the past few years. Their deaths have left grieving loved ones asking the question: How do we stop the violence?

For the third straight year, Citizens for Safety is poised to launch an assault on gun-related deaths with its Hands Without Guns buy-back program, which begins tomorrow and runs through Oct. 31.

During the 22-day period, the group will pay $50 for any working hand or assault gun.

'Losing someone to gunfire is the hardest thing in the world. We know that the buy-back won't solve the problem, but it can help.'

MICHAEL MacDONALD
Director, Hands Without Guns

"Our mission is to create an environment in Boston that will allow Boston youth to live to be able to graduate from high school," said Harlan Jones, executive director of Citizens for Safety. "This is one component of a comprehensive approach to stopping violence in Boston."

Michael MacDonald, director of Hands Without Guns, has lost three brothers, two to gunfire.

"Losing someone to gunfire is the hardest thing in the world," MacDonald said. "We know that the buy-back won't solve the problem, but it can help."

Citizens for Safety has more than 1,000 members. It has raised $109,750 to buy 2,197 firearms during buy-back programs in 1994 and 1993. The money is all privately raised.

"People think it is expensive to buy back guns, but when you compare it to the cost of gun-related death and injury, it is not expensive at all," MacDonald said.

The National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta estimates the average cost of one fatality due to a firearm costs the public $373,000, MacDonald said.

"Those of us who have lost people know it's not just a gun," he said. "There is a murderer, and there are negative environments and many things that add to the problem, but the physical presence of guns is an issue."

Sandy King, who lost her sons, Jay and Chris, to bullets, said she is tired of the violence.

"How much is your kid's life worth?" she asked. "There are far too many guns on the street. Babies are killing babies. No one wants to take a rifle out of a hunter's hand. What I do want is to take guns out of kids' hands."

King said she will purchase one gun in each of her son's names. "I think it's one way that gun victims can speak out and take some control," she said.

Mary Adams' son, Michael, 31, was shot dead on May 1, 1994. Since then she has been involved with several programs designed to help stop the violence.

"So many young kids have had guns in their homes or have had a family member or friend who has been shot," Adams said from her Roxbury home. "I was amazed. It is really sad because we are not leaving any legacy for the younger generation. It is hard to get the message across that it is past time to lay down the weapons."

While none of the Citizens for Safety members believes the gun buy-back program will end the violence, they all say it is a step in the right direction.

"You have to start somewhere," Adams said. "If we can get people to realize that they are killing the future, if we can stop just one death, it's worth it."

MacDonald said that 40 percent of all guns used in street crimes are stolen from the homes of law-abiding citizens.

"I would say to people to just get rid of the guns," MacDonald said. "The key component here is fear. We need to find other ways of dealing with our fears rather than arming ourselves. Too many people's babies are dying."

Working handguns and assault guns can be exchanged at any Boston police station for a $50 voucher that is redeemable at any Bank of Boston. Anonymity is guaranteed by Boston police, and amnesty is assured by Suffolk District Attorney Ralph C. Martin 2d.

All guns must be given directly to an on-duty Boston police officer. They must be empty and in a clear plastic bag inside another container. No identification will be requested by the police or the bank. For information, call (617) 542-HANDS.